

Remarks

The above-referenced application has been reviewed in light of the Examiner's Office Action dated April 6, 2004. Claims 1-4 and 11 have been allowed. Claims 2, 3, 6, 7 and 12 have been amended, and Claims 5 and 14 have been canceled. Accordingly, Claims 1-4, 6-13 and 15-20 are currently pending in this application. The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter is gratefully acknowledged. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-4 and 11 have been allowed. Dependent Claims 2 and 3 have been amended only to correct minor typographical errors.

In accordance with the Office Action, Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,977,894 to McCarroll et al. Claim 5 has been canceled. Claims 6 and 7, which were indicated by the Examiner as reciting allowable subject matter, have been rewritten in independent form.


In accordance with the Office Action, Claims 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,635,937 to Lim et al. Amended Claim 12 recites the step of Claim 14, now canceled, which was indicated by the Examiner as reciting allowable subject matter.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent Claims 6, 7 and 12 are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons stated above. Since dependent Claims 8-10, 13 and 15-20 each depend from one of the amended

Claims and necessarily include each of the elements and limitations thereof, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also in condition for allowance for at least the reasons stated, and for reciting additional patentable subject matter.

All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, reconsideration of the rejections and an early and favorable allowance of this case are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Eric M. Parham
Registration No. 45,747

Correspondence Address:

F. Chau & Associates, LLC
1900 Hempstead Turnpike
Suite 501
East Meadow, NY 11554

(516) 357-0091
(516) 357-0092 (FAX)